

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner objected to claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 due to alleged informalities; rejected claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 101; rejected claims 1, 2, and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,379,548 to Revital et al. ("*Revital*"); and rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Revital*.

Applicant has amended claims 1-8 and added claim 9. Claims 1-9 are now pending.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 7, and 8 to remove the phrases objected to by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claims 1, 2, 7, and 8.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because "no useful, concrete, and tangible result is claimed." (Office Action at page 3). Applicant has amended claim 7 to recite in part a "an output step of playing the acquired content to a user," which is a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of claim 7.

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as "directed to non-statutory subject matter of software, per se." (Office Action at page 3). Applicant has amended claim 8 to recite in part a "computer-readable medium containing instructions that are executable by a computer." Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of claim 8.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Revital*.

Claim 1 recites a method for managing licenses, comprising, among other things, “transmitting . . . a first license having a utilization condition applied in common for the plurality of available contents, the first license further including first key information and an electronic signature” and “transmitting . . . a second license, in a manner different from transmitting the first license, the second license having a utilization condition for the transmitted content, and the second license further including identification information of a first license corresponding to the second license, second key information, and an electronic signature.” (Emphasis added).

Revital fails to teach at least the steps of “transmitting . . . a first license” and “transmitting . . . a second license,” as recited in claim 1. *Revital* discloses that there are “two layers of keys in the key hierarchy.” (Col. 5, lines 5-6). *Revital* does not disclose that the first layer of the key hierarchy includes “a utilization condition applied in common for the plurality of available content” or “an electronic signature,” as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, *Revital* does not disclose that the second layer of the key hierarchy includes “a utilization condition for the transmitted content,” “identification information of a first license corresponding to the second license,” and an “electronic signature,” as recited in claim 1. Claim 1 thus distinguishes over *Revital*.

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Claims 2, 7, and 8, though of different scope than claim 1, are allowable over *Revital*, for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 4-6 depend from claim 2 and are thus allowable over *Revital*, for at least the same reasons as claim 2.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Revital*. *Revital* fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 3. Claim 3 depends from claim 2 and is thus allowable over *Revital* for at least the same reason as claim 2. Accordingly, *Revital* fails to render the subject matter of claim 3 obvious. For at least this reason, the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

New claim 9 is allowable at least due to its dependence from allowable independent claim 2.

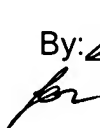
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By:  [Arthur A. Smith] Reg. No. 56,877
Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921